

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS,

AND

Bulletin of the American Numismatic and Archæological Society.

VOL. III.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1868.

No. 6.

FICTITIOUS HEBREW COINS AND MEDALS.

This is a subject on which, in our ignorance of the Hebrew language, and with only a few of the specimens in question as a starting-point for our inquiries, we enter with some degree of hesitation. We broach it, however, as we have introduced others, partly to draw out additional information from correspondents, partly that what little knowledge we do possess, may be of service to our friends in guiding or restraining their purchases. For what collector has not, at the beginning of his numismatic career, been tempted, and at the same time puzzled, by one of those large and brilliant "Shekels", so frequently met with at auction sales, in proof condition, of silver, or copper, size 20 or 22, generally catalogued as a "Shekel" merely, without even a "Caveat Emptor"? Acquired at a price considered either great or small, as the buyer's enthusiasm may have determined the standard, it has been for a little while perhaps regarded as a veritable "shekel of the sanctuary," such as is mentioned in Exodus xxx., 13 and 24, or, at any rate, as a royal or profane shekel, "after the king's weight" (2 Sam. xiv., 26), till the deluded one has chanced to read, or hear, that such pieces, not only in silver, but in gold, in copper, and in lead, are "the fabrication of modern Jews", and that, in John Pinkerton's opinion, the admission of a single one of these coins, with "a sprig on one side, and a vase upon the other", "is rightly esteemed to be almost a disgrace to a cabinet". Pinkerton's "sprig" is intended for the budding rod of Aaron, and the Hebrew legend encircling it signifies "Jerusalem the Holy"; the "vase" is a censer, or, according to some, a vessel in which the Manna was collected, and its legend, in the same character, is interpreted "Shekel of Israel".

Whence do these forgeries originate? A German illustrated work, Grässe's "Handbook of Ancient Numismatics", exhibits, Plate LII., No. 8, a representation of one of them, designated as a "Spurious Silver-Shekel made to be sold at the Holy Sepulchre in Görlitz". This is a Prussian town, of 20,000 inhabitants, in the province of Silesia. One of the principal curiosities to be seen there—according to Didot's great "Dictionnaire de la Conversation et de la Lecture", Paris, 1860—is the imitation of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. The devout founder of this structure was a burgomaster of Görlitz, named Emerich, who, in 1465 and 1476, made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem with some artists. On his return, having found in his native city a place which, as he thought, bore some resemblance to that where the tomb of Christ is situated at Jerusalem, he caused to be built there, from 1480 to 1498, an edifice which is the exact reproduction of the Holy Sepulchre. The piety of his descendants has, down to the present day, defrayed all the expenses of its maintenance and preservation.—Whether they indemnify themselves to some little extent by manufacturing spurious shekels, we are not informed by the encyclopedist. If they do, "modern Jews" must be relieved from the imputation.

Let it not be hastily inferred, however, that there is no such thing as a genuine shekel, at least one of Simon Maccabæus, in existence. Observe, only, that the legends of the false pieces are in the square, or modern Hebrew, character; that the pieces themselves are larger than the genuine, which latter do not exceed size 13 or 14; and that the rod of Aaron which "budded, and brought forth buds, and bloomed blossoms, and yielded almonds"*, has the appearance, on the veritable shekel, rather of three buds merely, united on one stalk. Hence it is called by some authorities: "a triple lily or hyacinth". The vase on the genuine coin has no smoke issuing from it, and the legends on both sides are in the old, or Samaritan, character. The Samaritans retained the original Hebrew form of writing, after the

* Numbers, xvii., 8.

Jews themselves had adopted—probably in the first half of the 2d century A. D.—another one, more familiar to us under the name of Hebrew. This latter is the modern, or Chaldee, character. The “Samaritan” character is therefore equivalent to the early Hebrew; and the square, or later Hebrew, lettering on a coin professing to be ancient, is of itself the surest mark of forgery.*

Is there in this country a shekel, an authentic one, of Simon the Maccabee, B. C. 143–135, to whose reign all these coins appear to belong? Our Catalogue of Mr. Woodward’s sale, Oct. 20, and the following days, 1863, which included Mr. Colburn’s collection, is unfortunately not named, or we could perhaps answer the question. It is priced, however, and informs us that for \$26 was sold Lot 80: “Jewish Shekel; *an undoubted original*; it bears in the ancient Samaritan characters the legend, *Jerusalem the Holy*, surrounding a stalk with three buds (Aaron’s rod); rev. in the same characters *Shekel of Israel*, around a cup (the pot of incense). This specimen was brought from the East many years ago, and is stated by Mr. Colburn to be the only genuine shekel that he has ever known in America. Of the most extraordinary degree of rarity, and in very fine condition”. Who is its owner at present? “*Quis—nunc te fruitur?*”—as a friend of youth inquired on a somewhat different occasion. “*Credulus aurea*” we cannot add: first, because it is silver, not gold; secondly, because Mr. Colburn’s guarantee is all-sufficient. Still we should be gratified to learn the history of its translation to our shores, as well as that of its subsequent migrations.

The notorious, but highly ingenious German forger, Becker, who died in 1830, and availed himself extensively of the services of the Frankfort Jews to bring his false wares into the market, made a shekel of Simon in his second year, faithfully copied from an original specimen of the sixth degree of rarity, and valued by Mionnet at 100 Francs. Of this fraudulent production also American collectors have to take notice and heed.

We pass to the remarkable coin or medal of Moses, which, from its nature, is of course to be classed with fictitious specimens rather than with forged. It will be found mentioned in the Transactions of the Boston Numismatic Society for April, 1867, contained in our number for the succeeding month, as follows: “a Jewish piece of brass silvered, which is described in the work of Thomas Bartolini, ‘De Unicornu’. On one side is the head of Moses with ram’s horns instead of hair, and on the other is the Hebrew command, ‘Thou shalt have no other Gods before me.’ Of this singular piece we have two impressions, neither of them silvered; and Mr. Appleton informs us that the traces of silvering on the one mentioned above, were scarcely discernible. The size is a little over 22; the obverse bears a head heavily bearded, turned to the right, and with the Hebrew word for Moses (Mosheh) inscribed on the collar of the garment which covers the shoulder. On the left side of the head is a ram’s horn, of great size, to express that conventional attribute of the sacred law-giver, which arose from the language of the Vulgate, ‘*cornutam habens faciem*’, in describing the splendor imparted to his countenance by his long seclusion on Sinai in the Divine Presence. On the reverse is an inscription in Hebrew, signifying: “Thou shalt have no other Gods before my face.” These words are from Exodus, xx., 3.

In a letter dated May 18, 1867, Mr. Appleton had the kindness to transcribe for us the passage from Bartolini, whose lucubrations on the Unicorn we had not been able to discover in the Astor Library. The following is a translation: “To the series of the Cornuted belongs also the Divine Legislator, whom the sacred text of Exodus, C. xxxiv., relates, if we follow the vulgar version, to have worn, when he returned from Mount Sinai, a horned visage. Thence arose the error of artists who decorate the face of Moses with two horns. And with this countenance he is seen wrought on a coin of mine, which I met with at Rome, the ram’s horn on each side being bent back, which, in the Rhodian one†, projects straight forward; and it has on the reverse the commandment of the Decalogue, whereby graven images are condemned. And I think that this has been done by the Jews to the disgrace of the Christians, for they, as Steuchus says, reproach the latter for representing Moses with horns”. “Then”—observes Mr. Appleton—“follows a long essay to prove that Moses did

* Madden, “History of the Jewish Coinage”, Lond., 1864. We have taken this excellent work as our guide throughout this article.

† Mr. Appleton explains that the words “in Rhodiano” may refer to a description by Jo. Rhodius of a coin of Alexander the Great, of which Bartolini had previously spoken. The full title of the book is “*Thomæ Bartolini Casp. F. de Unicornu Observationes Novæ, &c., &c., Patavii, MDCXLV*”. The passage occurs on page 32.

not wear horns in descending from Sinai, but only rays of glory, showing the effect of the divine presence he had just left". We have been able to obtain no further information on the subject of this interesting piece.

The third and last fictitious specimen on which we have remarks to make, attracts, at the first glance, and would undoubtedly secure to itself permanently, if it were genuine, more, and more reverent, attention, than either of the other two. Of silver, size 21, it has, on the obverse, a head of Christ, turned to the right, bearded, with flowing hair, and with Hebrew letters, one behind the neck and three before the face. The reverse is entirely occupied by a Hebrew inscription in five lines. Now it is quite conceivable that this medal, if found in a situation, and under circumstances, favorable to the delusion, might for the moment be regarded as a veritable, and even a contemporary, portrait. But no such portrait exists, no, not even a trustworthy descriptive statement for constructing one; and this invention can only be classed, as it is by experts, with the many ingenious devices of the Jews for spoiling Egyptians and other Ethnics, or—as is equally probable—of the Christians for taking in their brethren. Dr. Levy, of Breslau, author of a "History of Jewish Coins", published at that place in 1862—an authority quoted by Madden*—says that this specimen is one of very frequent occurrence, that the letters before the face stand for "Jesu", and that the Hebrew characters on the reverse form the "wonderful inscription": "The King Messiah comes in peace, God is made man".

Many, many, years ago, before we anticipated any possibility of ever owning this medal, our interest was strongly excited in regard to it, by a slip, or cutting, pasted in an old scrap-book, and extracted from some now long-forgotten newspaper. A picture of the piece was there presented, with the comments of Mr. Roy, a distinguished Hebrew scholar of this city, who evidently wished to believe it genuine. The cutting in question is still accessible to us, and reads as follows:

"A very curious coin, of which the above wood-cut is intended for a fac-simile, is in the possession of Mr. Roy, of this city. It is of the size of a half-dollar piece, and of about the thickness of a two-shilling piece. The letters and the head are in bold relief, and perfectly distinct. It has all the appearance of a very ancient coin; but as there is nothing in the Hebrew characters which peculiarly points out its age, it cannot be determined, supposing it to be genuine, from mere inspection. Of its history we are only informed, that it was found with other relics, in a box dug up in a garden in Palestine, several years ago. We publish, below, the explanations given of the inscriptions, by various Oriental scholars in Great Britain, and by Mr. Roy. It has a small silver ring at the top, for the purpose, no doubt, of its being worn as a relic. What is most peculiar is the expression of the divine *effigies* intended to be represented; which resembles strongly that generally given to the countenance of the Saviour by the great masters. Could the history of this curiosity be more accurately certified, placed beyond doubt, and its date carried back, with reasonable probability, to a remote age, it would be a most interesting subject for minute investigation.

TRANSLATIONS OF THE CHARACTERS.

'Messiah the King came in peace, and being made the light of (or from Man) liveth. The four letters on the obverse signify "the Lord Jesu".

'By the REV. DR. BARRETT, Vice-Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, &c., &c.

'The Lord Jesus Messiah King has come in peace, and the light of man was made life.

'Mr. Roy, of New York, U. S.

'Messiah reigneth, he came in a state of ignominy; on this day he hath arisen, (his) blood hath been shed, he liveth. The three letters in front of the face on the medal mean "Jesu". The letter *Aleph*, importing *one*, is the date from the latest event respecting Christ, recorded in the inscription, namely, the Resurrection or Ascension.†

'By the REV. DR. QUARRY, Rector of St. Mary's, Shandon, Cork.

'The Lord Jesus'—'Christ the King came in peace, and the light from the Man was made life.

'By the REV. DR. HALE, Rector of Killesandra, in the County of Cavan.

'Christ the King came in peace, and the light from man became life', or 'from sinful man liveth.

'By the REV. EDWARD HINCKS, London.'"

* "History of the Jewish Coinage", p. 337.

† The Rev. Dr. Quarry seems convinced that this is a genuine production of the first year after the Resurrection. We are informed, by a friend well versed in Hebrew, that the Doctor's version, so different from the rest, is procured by keeping the five lines of the legend separate from each other, and not running them together, as the other translators have done.

TRANSACTIONS OF SOCIETIES.

NEW ENGLAND NUMISMATIC AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Society was held on Thursday evening, Sept. 17th, Vice-President Bond occupying the chair. A letter from the Secretary of the Rhode Island Numismatic Association, presenting their good-will and a copy of their Constitution and By-Laws, was read, and the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the same and to present the thanks of the Society therefor. The Society has received a pamphlet of the "Proceedings of the Manchester Numismatic Society", from Dr. Chas. Clay of Manchester, Eng., for which the thanks of the Society were voted.

The following pieces were brought for exhibition: two pattern cents "one tenth silver 1850", one of which was not pierced with a hole in the centre as is usual with this piece; a half cent of 1856 struck in an alloy of nickel and copper; a handsome campaign medal of Grant and Colfax, by Sigel; and several proofs from plates of Confederate Money, which were intended for the manufacture of Rebel "Greenbacks".

The attendance at this meeting was not large, it being the first after the summer vacation, and consequently it adjourned at an early hour.

DUDLEY R. CHILD, *Recording Sec'y.*

BOSTON NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Regular Monthly Meeting was held on the afternoon of the 1st of October. A letter was read from the Secretary, Mr. Appleton, dated Paris, Sept. 14, mentioning a visit to the Museum of Northern Antiquities at Copenhagen, and relating his purchase at Frankfort of a large silver medal of 1628, with a map of the New World on it, apparently commemorating the capture of a Spanish silver-fleet by the Dutch in the bay of Matanzas, Cuba.

Mr. Pratt exhibited a large Japanese gold coin valued at ninety dollars in currency; in shape an ellipse, flattened on the sides, and three and a quarter inches in width by five and a half in length. The obverse was deeply engrailed width-wise, and had four large floriated stamps of the same pattern, together with a heavy inscription in India ink. On the reverse, which was otherwise smooth, were six stamps or mint marks, three large and three small, of different patterns. The coin is thick, heavy, and very beautiful. The stamps probably represent the coat of arms of the *Dairi*, and mark also the weight, value, and date of the coin. It must be worth in Japan eight or nine of the gold kobangs.

Mr. Pratt also exhibited a collection of twenty-nine gold coins, among which were magnificent ones of Tiberius, Marcus Aurelius, and Antoninus Pius, and an early British piece in fine preservation; the latter, though of gold, being much alloyed with silver. There were also in the same collection, a noble of Edward III. of England, a pavilion piece of Edward the Black Prince, a noble of Richard II., which is rare, a noble of Henry VI., angels of Edward IV. and Henry VII. and Henry VIII., a sovereign of Charles I., a pattern sovereign of Charles II. (1662) by Thomas Simon, the celebrated engraver, author, and artist, and a "touch piece" of James II.

Adjourned to the fifth of November.

JOHN HARVARD ELLIS, *Acting Secretary.*

AN ADDITIONAL TYPE OF THE NEWBY COPPER.

Robert C. Davis, Esq., of Philadelphia, has obligingly furnished us the following description of a Type of the Newby Copper, not mentioned in the article, Vol. II., p. 91.

"On the *obverse*, is the figure of a crowned King, in his robes, in a kneeling position, playing upon a Harp. Above the Harp, is the imperial crown, struck upon a piece of *Brass*, with the legend,

'Floreat Rex'.

"On the *reverse*, is a standing figure of 'St. Patrick', mitred, with his Crozier resting upon his *left* arm. The *right* arm is extended, with open hand. On the left of the figure, is a representation of a large Church or Cathedral, with a tall spire. The legend reads,

'Quiescat Plebs'.

"It is struck in *Copper*, and weighs 86 grains, size 14".

On examining our Collection, we find that we have an impression of Mr. Davis's piece, in silver. His specimen appears to be a farthing; and the one already described, a Halfpenny. This is the statement of Humphreys (Coin Collector's Manual, II., 511), and we do not know whether Newby was empowered by the Government of New Jersey to circulate these as well as the Halfpence.

NUMISMATICS IN POETRY.—CONCLUDED.

Chaucer, again, in the "Pardoners Tale", tells a true Numismatic Story of three rogues who "finde a tresoure of Florins fine of golde coined rounde". One of the rogues is sent to get victuals, which he poisons in order to get rid of the other two, and they in the meantime resolve to kill him, which they do when he comes, but in their turn eating the poisoned food, die and leave the "floreyns" "nighe an eighte bushel full", as the tale says, without a claimant.

ANDREW WYNTOUN, A. D. 1420, in his "Originall Cronykel of Scotland", says King David agreed to pay "ane hunderd thousand pounde until 17 yeere", as his ransom.

JOHN LYDGATE, 1430, says:

"The taverne tooke me by the sleeve,
Sir, saide he, will you our wine amaye?
I saide, that can me not much grieve,
And a peny can do no more than it may,
I dranke a pint and for it did pay".

SIR DAVID LYNDESAY, 1550, says:

"Marry I lent my gossip my mare to fetch hame coals
And he her drounit in the quarry holes.
Ande I ran to the consistory for to pleinye,
Ande there I happenit amang ane greedy meinié.
They gave me first ane thing they called *Citandum*,
Within aucht days, I gat but *libellandum*,
Within ane month I gat *ad opponendum*,
In half a yeere I gat *inter loquendum*;
And syne, I got what call yet, *ad explicandum*.
But I could never ane worde yet understand them.
And then they gaet me cast out mony *Placks*,
And gaet me pay for four and twenty acts,
But ere they came half way to *concludendum*:
The fiend a *plack* was left me to defend 'em.
Thus they postponed me two year with their train,
Syne Hodie *ad octo*, bade me come again,
And then their rooks the roopit wonder fast,
For sentence silver the cry it at the last,
Of *Pronunciandum* they made me wonder fain
But I gat never my good grey mare again."

As I have trespassed so long, I will not quote any more at length, but confine myself to the name of Author and the coin mentioned.

JOSEPH HALL in his Satires says: "many a young gallant with a feathered crest" would rather dine with Duke Humphry than

"Stake his twelpence to a meaner host".

RICHARD BAMFIELD, 1570:

"Every man will be thy friend,
While thou hast wherewith to spend.
But if store of *crowns* is scant,
No one will supply thy want."

RICHARD CORBET, 1647, speaking of Maids in his "Farewell to the Fairies" says:

"Yet who of late for cleaning finds
Sixpence in her shoe?"

DAME ELEANOR LYNDESAY makes an indulgence-selling monk say:

"Whoever hears this bell clink,
Gives me a *ducat* to the drink,
Shall never gang to hell."

A few extracts from that treasure of the antiquary, "Percy's Reliques", and my ancient extracts shall end.

In a Ballad of Robin Hood, Adam Bell, Clym of the Clough, and William of Clondeslée come

"To shoot with our forester for forty mark
Ande our forester beat all thre."

And in the same ballad, the King says :

"I give thee eightene pence a day,"

And

"I thyrtene pence a day said the quene."

The Ballad of the "Tanner of Tamworth and King Edward" mentions all the coins current. The tanner had

"A maie of four shilling."

When the "Kynge" offers to pay for the tanner's dinner,

"Gramercye for nought the tanner replyde,
Thou payst no fare of mine;
I trow I've more nobles in my purse,
Then thou hast pence in thine."

When they "swap" horses the tanner wants "boot."

"No pence nor half pence by my fay
But a noble of golde so rounde."
"Heres twenty grotes of white moneye,
Sith thou wilt have it of mee."
"I would have sworne quoth the tanner
Thou hadst not one pennie."

When they swap back the King in his turn wants boot.

"Noe pence or half pence by my fay
But I will have twenty pound."

Finally the King gives him "Plumpton Parke which is worth three hundred marke by the year". In the "Heir of Linne" "John cast him a gods pennie".

An example of the existence of counterfeiting even in that time is given when it is stated that

"He had never a peny but thre
Ande one was brass ande one was lead
Ande one was white moneye."

As no copper was current at that time, of course the brass and leaden pennies were counterfeit.

In the Ballad of Sir Andrew Barton the gunner, Peter Simon promises "Not to miss his marke one pennie bread": that is, by the breadth of the silver penny: and the archers also promise the same, substituting the "shilling bread" for the smaller distance.

Finally, to end the catalogue, the King gives James Hambilton six hundred Nobles: Henry Hunt a Noble a day: The sailors five hundred marks to part between them: and the Scotch sailors twelve pence a day for their brave behavior.

In the Ballad of ARGENTILE and CURRAN, allusion is made to the ancient custom of betrothed lovers breaking a piece of gold or silver money in two, half of which is kept by each, in the following words:

"By our by-parted crown of which
The moiety is mine."

The poets of more modern times avoid, as if intentionally, any mention of coin or money, preferring to designate it as yellow dross, or by some equally appropriate metaphor. Still there are instances enough where they have used numismatic illustrations, as for example—DRYDEN, in the "Cock and the Fox," has a widow who

"Duly paid a groat for quarter's rent."

CAMPBELL, in "Lord Ullin's Daughter", makes his "chieftain to the Highlands bound" offer the Boatman a "silver pound".

WORDSWORTH, in "The Power of Music", speaking of the mendicant musician, says:

"The one pennied boy has his penny to spare."

COWPER mentions several sums of money in "John Gilpin", viz., pence, pounds, and half-a-crown. Finally to conclude this over-long string of quotations, I will give you one from my favorite Hudibras, who with his accustomed good sense says:

"For what in worth is anything,
But so much money as 'twill bring."

D. L. W.

QUERY AND REPLY.

We place under this heading, though not with complete propriety, an interesting letter from a correspondent who is well and favorably known to many numismatists:

PROF. CHAS. E. ANTHON, New York:

CHARLESTON, Oct. 8th, 1868.

DEAR SIR:—It may be of interest to your readers to see a line, once in a while, from this direction. We have but little opportunity just now to increase our coin cabinets, nor are we able to add anything of importance to your monthly journal of Numismatic knowledge; yet, such as we have, of that we will cheerfully contribute. A friend, who has just returned from a voyage "round the world", has handed me a variety of Eastern coins, some rare—others common. One, however, to me has special interest. It is the "bullet money" of Siam. I had never seen a specimen, and have failed, in every effort before, to get one; perhaps to you they are familiar. Mine seems to be formed from a piece of round silver rod, bent together and hammered. It has upon it three small Government stamps, and is intrinsically worth about 58 cents specie. While engaged in placing these newly received coins in my cabinet, I accidentally discovered among my Turkish coins one which had always escaped my eye until then. Most of my Eastern coins were brought me from Rome, some from Constantinople, and a few from Egypt; and I presume from one of these places this coin came. I am unable to "locate" it. I send you a wax impression of both sides, also a rough drawing of each. The "horseman" side is got up with considerable spirit, and has traces of early Roman work. The other side, having upon it a ram lying down, is rude in workmanship. The inscription I can do nothing with. I have never discovered anything of the history of the engraved medal I brought to your notice some months ago, but since then I have obtained a duplicate, which has been for years a "pocket-piece" in an English family.

The curious coin, of which I sent a rubbing and wax impression, I have discovered to be a Venetian coin of the 10th century.

Truly yours,

J. H. TAYLOR.

The bullet money of Siam is not at all infrequent in our auction-sales, and there is at this present moment a set of it comprising 6 pieces in the window of Mr. J. K. Curtis, 942 Broadway, with the price marked at \$10. The "*tical*", "*salung*", and "*prang*", of Siam, and the star-pagoda of India, "which is a convex lump", are the only modern exceptions to the circular disk as the shape of coins.* The former country, observes Mr. Dubois, "may claim the merit of originality in the shape of her coin, which will not admit of piling, and scarcely of lying still; the lively emblem of a true circulating medium". In the present state of the editorial knowledge, nothing more hopelessly confounds it than some queer and dubious *oriental* piece; and in regard to such, our friends need not expect much enlightenment from this quarter. Mr. Taylor's engraved medal, however, described by him in our second Volume, p. 43, has lately been made a subject of discussion in the English "*Notes and Queries*", and we were about to call attention to the fact when we received his letter. The portraits are not, as he supposes, those of Charles I. and Charles II., but, in the opinion of a correspondent (4th S. I., 568), James I., and his eldest son, Henry, prince of Wales. The engraver is stated to be Simon Passe. Another correspondent (4th S. I., 18) thinks that the portraits are those of James I., and Charles I.; and a third one takes the same view. The argument against the opinion that Henry, prince of Wales, is the subject of the portrait, is that he died at the age of 18, whereas the personage represented is provided with "a pointed beard of considerable size, and large curled mustachio".

A TABLE

EXHIBITING THE PRICES PAID FOR THE FIVE TYPES OF THE 1793 CENT OF THE UNITED STATES, SELECTED FROM TWENTY OF THE MOST PROMINENT COIN-SALES IN THE COUNTRY FROM 1855 TO 1868. COMPILED BY JOSEPH N. T. LEVICK.

For the perusal of our Subscribers, and more particularly those interested in the United States Cent-Series, I submit a Tabular Statement, showing the scale of prices which have been paid for the five distinct types of the 1793 cents, the first copper coins struck at and issued by the U. S. Mint, at Philadelphia. I have compiled it from the catalogues of twenty (20) of the most remarkable Coin-sales of New York and Philadelphia, in which were sold cents from the finest collections in the country, commencing with the John W. Kline (believed by most to be A. C. Kline) Sale in 1855, and ending with the celebrated Joseph W. Mickley Sale, October 28, 1867. It is intended to display, at a glance, the prices realized for the first mint coinage pieces of this denomination. The names of purchasers are placed opposite the prices, which is done to show, or afford means of tracing, into whose hands the pieces have finally settled. In many instances the reputation of the original owners, not less than the merits of the pieces, has been the cause of such competition and high prices.

While examining the immense number of coin catalogues, I determined to exclude those that are not mentioned in this list, simply because their '93s, although the collections might be otherwise fine and complete, were too ordinary to note. In so doing I was guided by the low prices which such pieces brought, especially if the sales occurred during the years 1863 to 1866, when cents of 1793, and in fact any fine coins, ruled the highest.

This table will be found convenient for future reference, and save a deal of labor which would

* Eckfeldt and Du Bois, "*Manual*", p. 10, and Supplement, p. 226.

else be required in searching through catalogue after catalogue for an idea of the general average price of either type. Previous to the Kline Sale I find but one lot in which a '93 was sold. This appears in the Dr. Roper Sale, February 20, 1851, and that piece, it seems, sold as low as ten cents. Its condition may have been poor. Mr. Kline's sale, therefore, is made my starting point, being the first in which the '93s receive some attention. I find, in this sale, that four types are put up in one lot, and sold for \$3.20, or 80 cents each, to Mr. Burtiss of New York.

The collections of Chas. B. Foote and Simon Gratz, of Philadelphia, were sold by Mr. Cogan in his store; and no printed catalogues were ever issued, but copies were preserved by many collectors in manuscript, for they were then considered very fine collections, and sold at high prices. Mr. Foote employed a person to write a number of catalogues with prices, which he distributed among his friends. I happened to be one of those friends, and therefore am fortunate enough to hold now one of his rare catalogues. These two sales, if I mistake not, comprised the first collection which passed into the hands of Mr. Cogan to be so disposed of; the third was that of Wm. C. Tripler, Oct. 28, 1859, and the fourth, my own collection, Dec. 10, 1859. Mr. Tripler's collection was sold by auction in Mr. Cogan's store, my friend Wm. C. Cook officiating as auctioneer, and I acting as teller, thereby saving Mr. Cogan (then the owner) a heavy commission. My sale was the first printed catalogue collection which Mr. Cogan had the charge of, and it was the first in this country reprinted with prices. It will be observed that the prices in the Kline, Cogan, Foote, Gratz and Levick collections, all sold previous to 1860, are low in comparison to more recent sales; but my recollection of these sales is, that were the same pieces resold at the present time, they would command much higher prices. The cents of Mr. W. J. Jenks, of Philadelphia, whose name appears opposite the prices of the pieces he bought in Foote's and Gratz's collections, were in such excellent condition, that, if sold now, they would rank among the fifty dollar pieces. Mr. Jenks' set of cents, especially his 93s, I presume were then about the best if Mr. Mickley's only were excepted. Geo. F. Seavey, Esq., of Cambridgeport, Mass., was fortunate enough to purchase Mr. Jenks' collection, which, of course, improved his own cabinet immensely, and undoubtedly it now ranks as the first in the country. Mr. Mortimer L. Mackenzie, who has been most enthusiastic as a purchaser of the Cent-Series, may excel so far as relates to condition; but for varieties, with condition combined, Mr. Seavey undoubtedly outranks him. I recollect well the fine condition of those he secured from the Jenks cabinet.

It is evident, upon reviewing all the coin catalogues preceding that of Mr. Kline's sale, that the collecting of United States cents, as a specialty, was not thought of or indulged in before to any extent, excepting perhaps by a few who had fortunately included them in cabinets, more by accident than from any idea that a set of cents could prove valuable. Cents in those days were easily found in circulation in such condition as to satisfy a collector:—always excepting, of course, those rare dates of '99 and '04, which were considered scarcer than the '93s, and even those dates were to be had of collectors by exchanging. I quite well remember what an advantage the mint was to us who lived in Philadelphia, for we had the privilege of going to the institution, and selecting from trays or drawers subdivided for every date. From these I procured some excellent specimens of cents for their face value; and many of us collectors, knowing this channel, thus secured cheap cents. We also took the precaution to lay aside quantities of fine pieces to trade with, and for some years afterwards, the market was well stocked with cents. The employés of the mint, however, soon learned to know the increasing value of these coins, and also commenced laying aside the finer pieces, and more unusual dates. Our game was blocked by this discovery, for we saw thenceforward that the desirable cents were missing.

The fever for collecting the cents in sets was not created until about 1856 or 1857, when the small nickel (flying eagle) cent was introduced as a substitute for the large copper. It was not, however, till some time in '57 that these nickel cents were issued for circulation, as we have both the large copper and the nickel for that year, the '56 nickels being regarded more as Patterns than otherwise. This change in cent coinage, therefore, was the cause of cent collections being inaugurated, for everybody said that the old coppers would soon become difficult to find, since they were being melted up as fast as returned to the mint. Collecting thus began over the whole land. Probably among those who foresaw all this and set immediately to work in forming a collection, was our highly esteemed contributor, Mr. Edward Cogan, who then resided in Philadelphia. After having accomplished the great task of perfecting his set, he took great pleasure in showing it to the numerous callers-in, and by this means his store was made the great rendezvous for coin collectors, and he obtained quite a reputation in that city, and in some parts of the country.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

N. B.—In our next number we intend to furnish PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES of a number of TYPES and VARIETIES of the CENT of 1793, to be accompanied by detailed description; and in the meantime we earnestly solicit our subscribers and friends to send us good rubbings or copper-foil impressions of any specimens which they may chance to possess—or, if possible, the cents themselves for a short time. Communications on this subject to be sent to J. N. T. Levick, P. O. Box 4318.

A TABLE

SHOWING THE PRICES PAID FOR THE FIVE TYPES OF THE 1793 CENT, OF THE UNITED STATES, OF THE COUNTRY, FROM 1855

COMPILED BY J. N.

DATES OF SALES.	OWNERSHIP.	LINK "AMERI."	LINK "AMERICA"	WREATH, VINE AND BARS ON EDGE.	WREATH, LIBERTY OR "HUNDRED DOLLAR."
1855 June 13	Kline, Jno. W., Phila. (known as the A. C. Kline Sale).	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.
1858 Nov. 1	Cogan, Edw., Private Biddings.		12 60 S. Gratz.		5 13 W. C.
1859 Mar. 7	Footo, Chas. B., Phila.	1 50	4 75 W. J. Jenks.	8 50 W. J. Jenks.	3 25
May 21	Gratz, Simon, Phila.	10 00 J. N. T. Levick.	15 00 W. J. Jenks.	11 00 W. J. Jenks.	6 00 Smith
Dec. 10	Levick, J. N. T. Phila.	10 25 V. E. Evers.	4 00 H. N. Rust.	10 00 A. B. Taylor.	5 50 J. K.
1860 May 21	Cogan, Edw., Phila.	4 50 Danl. Bertsch.	4 50 Danl. Bertsch.	9 00 N. Sleeper.	4 00 Barns
Oct. 18		5 25 A. S. Robinson.	9 25 A. S. Robinson.	11 50 A. S. Robinson.	6 25 A. S.
1862 Mar. 25	Wiggin, Jno. K. by E. Cogan.	7 25 J. P. Leavitt.	4 50 Geo. F. Seavey.	5 88 Wagner.	7 25 Dr. A.
May 26	Lilliendahl, W. A., New York.	7 00 Davidson.	24 50 J. P. Leavitt.	3 50 Jos. Zanoni.	6 50 Jos. 2
Nov. 11	Finotti, Rev. Jos. M., W. E. W. 1st S. A. Sale.	15 00 Ed. Cogan.	4 25 Marshall.	6 00 Jno. F. Wiggin.	4 00 Ed. C.
1863 Jan. 19	Haines, Benj., Elizabeth, N. J.	5 00 J. K. Wiggin.	16 00 A. S. Robinson.	4 25 Edw. Cogan.	7 75 Ed. C.
April 25	Woodward, W. E., 2nd Semi-An. Sale.	7 00 C. Lightbody.	20 00 G. M. Parsons.	10 00 G. M. Parsons.	
Sept. 15	Leavitt, J. P.	11 00 W. S. Appleton.	10 25 Danl. Bertsch.		
" 22	Seavey, Geo. F. (Duplicates).	3 75 J. Bailey.	10 00 J. N. T. Levick.	2 87 Jno. Bailey.	4 00 W. E.
1864 May 17	McCoy, Jno. F.	18 50 J. Zanoni.	31 00 J. N. T. Levick.	5 00 Edw. Groh.	4 50
Oct. 18	Woodward, W. E., 5th S. A. Sale.	3 25 Marshall.	15 00 Dr. Edwards.	26 50 Jos. Zanoni.	12 00 J. N.
1865 Mar. 20	Woodward, W. E., 6th Semi-An. Sale.	5 00 Jenks.	27 00 J. Zanoni.	22 00 Colin Lightbody.	9 00 J. L.
June 29	Cogan, Edw.	18 50	11 00 Jno. Bailey.	15 00 Edw. Cogan.	8 00 J. L.
1866 Dec. 6	Lightbody, Colin.	8 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	7 75 R. B. Chambers.	24 00 Joseph Kenkirt.	8 50 Edw.
1867 Oct. 28	Mickley, Jos. J.	110 00 M. L. Mackenzie.	23 00 Mort. L. Mackenzie.	30 00 Thos. Cleneay.	1 38
" "	" "	71 25 Col. M. I. Cohen.	23 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	15 00 M. L. Mackenzie.	4 00 L. Ba.
" "	" "		22 00 J. H. Applegate, Jr.	31 00 A. V. Jencks.	28 00 L. Ba.
" "	" "		11 00 S. S. Crosby.	17 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	17 50 E. J.
" "	" "			13 50 Morris.	
" "	" "			12 50 S. S. Crosby.	
Totals of 20 sales for each variety.		\$262 80 Total for 20 pieces.	\$328 15 Total for 24 pieces.	\$393 05 Total for 24 pieces.	\$152 31 Total
Highest priced piece of the 20 sales for each variety.		\$110 00 Purchased by M. L. Mackenzie.	\$31 00 Purchased by J. N. T. Levick.	\$31 00 Purchased by A. V. Jencks.	\$28 00 Pur L. Ba.

RECAPITULATION.

20 Link "Ameri's"	realized a total of	\$262 80	averaging	\$13 14
24 " "America's"	" "	328 15	" "	13 67
24 Wreaths, Vine and Bars edge	" "	393 05	" "	12 21
21 " "Lettered edge	" "	132 31	" "	7 25
20 Liberty Caps	" "	325 50	" "	16 28
109 Cents of 1793	" "	\$1,361 81	" "	\$12 49

This shows us that from 20 Sales, 109 Cents of '93, brought the sum of one hundred and thirty-six thousand one hundred and eighty-one (136,181) cents. The average of the Liberty Cap Cent is the highest, and that of the Link "America" next, and so on.

1 Link "Ameri."	\$110 00	Mortimer
1 " "America,"	31 00	Jos. N.
1 Wreath, Vine and Bars edge,	31 00	A. V. Jencks.
1 " "Lettered edge,	28 00	L. Bayan
1 Lib. Cap,	55 00	L. Bayan
3	\$255 00	

Five distinct types or a set brought the above amount of fifty-one dollars each.

LE,

STATES COINAGE, SELECTED FROM THE
1855 TO 1868.

N. T. LEVICK.

DATE, LETTERED, HUNDRED FOR A DOLLAR, ON EDGE.	LIBERTY-CAP.	Total number of pieces of each sale.
Burtiss, W. C. Tripler,	7 25 Jos. J. Mickley, 5 00	4 3 5
Smith, Phila. J. K. Wiggins, Barnard, A. S. Robinson, Dr. Aug. Shurtleff,	6 00 Emil Cauffman, 10 50 Jno. K. Wiggins, 4 00 Bringham, 17 50 Francis S. Hoffman, 12 75 Dr. Aug. Shurtleff,	5 5 5 5 6
Jos. Zanoni, Ed. Cogan, Ed. Cogan,	16 50 J. Zanoni, 11 00 Jno. K. Wiggins, 6 75 Robt. B. Chambers, 10 00 W. H. Strobridge,	5 5 5 6
W. E. Woodward, J. N. T. Levick, J. L. Hodge, J. L. Hodge, Edw. Worthington,	30 00 W. S. Appleton, 10 00 25 00 Colin Lightbody, 14 00 J. N. T. Levick, 5 00 Burt,	5 5 5 7 6
L. Bayard Smith, L. Bayard Smith, E. J. Farmer,	1 75 40 00 Thos. Clensey, 55 00 L. Bayard Smith, 37 50 Rich'd B. Winsor,	3 6 13
Total for 21 pieces.	\$325 90 Total for 20 pieces.	100 pieces \$4,300
Purchased by L. Bayard Smith.	\$95 00 Purchased by L. Bayard Smith.	Average \$12 40

Below we give the highest		
PURCHASERS.	NUMBER OF PIECES.	
Fortimer L. Mackenzie.	13 cents.	J. J. Mickley's Coll.
Wm. N. T. Levick.	5 "	Jno. F. McCoy's Coll.
V. Jencks.	6 "	Colin Lightbody's Coll.
L. Bayard Smith.	7 "	Woodward's 5th S. Coll.
L. Bayard Smith.	5 "	J. P. Leavitt's Coll.
	5 "	W. A. Lilliendahl's Coll.
	6 "	Woodward's 2d S. Coll.
	6 "	" 6th
Above amount, an average	5 "	G. F. Seavey's (Dup.)
	5 "	Edw. Cogan,
	63	'93's brought the sum
From ten Sales 63 U. S. Cent. hundred and eighty-seven (1,063)		

A TABLE

SHOWING THE PRICES PAID FOR THE FIVE TYPES OF THE 1793 CENT, OF THE UNITED STATES
THE COUNTRY, FROM 1855 TO

COMPILED BY J. N. T.

DATES OF SALES.	OWNERSHIP.	LINK "AMERI."	LINK "AMERICA."	WREATH, VINE AND BARS ON EDGE.	WREATH, LETT OR "HUNDRED DOLLAR," ON
1855 June 12	Kline, Jno. W., Phila. (known as the A. C. Kline Sale).	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.	80 Burtiss.
1858 Nov. 1	Cogan, Edw., Private Biddings.		12 60 S. Gratz.		5 13 W. C. Tr.
1859 Mar. 7	Foot, Chas. B., Phila.	1 50	4 75 W. J. Jenks.	8 50 W. J. Jenks.	2 25
May 21	Gratz, Simon, Phila.	10 00 J. N. T. Levick.	15 00 W. J. Jenks.	11 00 W. J. Jenks.	6 00 Smith, P.
Dec. 10	Levick, J. N. T. Phila.	10 25 V. E. Evers.	4 00 H. N. Rust.	10 00 A. B. Taylor.	5 50 J. K. Wi
1860 May 21	Cogan, Edw., Phila.	4 50 Danl. Bertsch.	4 50 Danl. Bertsch.	9 00 N. Sleeper.	4 00 Barnard.
Oct. 18	" "	5 25 A. S. Robinson.	9 25 A. S. Robinson.	11 50 A. S. Robinson.	6 25 A. S. Rob
1862 Mar. 25	Wiggin, Jno. K. by E. Cogan.	7 25 J. P. Leavitt.	4 50 Geo. F. Seavey.	5 88 Wagner.	7 25 Dr. Aug.
May 26	Lilliendahl, W. A., New York.	7 00 Davidson.	24 50 J. P. Leavitt.	3 50 Jos. Zanoni.	6 50 Jos. Zano
Nov. 11	Finotti, Rev. Jos. M., W. E. W. 1st S. A. Sale.	15 00 Ed. Cogan.	4 25 Marshall.	6 00 Jno. F. Wiggin.	4 00 Ed. Coga
1863 Jan. 10	Haines, Benj., Elizabeth, N. J.	5 00 J. K. Wiggin.	16 00 A. S. Robinson.	5 25 Edw. Cogan.	7 75 Ed. Coga
April 23	Woodward, W. E., 2nd Semi-An. Sale.	7 00 C. Lightbody.	20 00 G. M. Parsons.	10 00 G. M. Parsons.	
Sept. 15	Leavitt, J. P.	11 00 W. S. Appleton.	11 00 Danl. Bertsch.	2 87 Jno. Bailey.	4 00 W. E. Wo
33	Seavey, Geo. F. (Duplicates).	3 75 J. Bailey.	16 00 J. N. T. Levick.	5 00 Edw. Groh.	4 50
1864 May 17	McCoy, Jno. F.	18 50 J. Zanoni.	31 00 J. N. T. Levick.	26 50 Jos. Zanoni.	13 00 J. N. T.
Oct. 18	Woodward, W. E., 5th S. A. Sale.	3 25 Marshall.	15 00 Dr. Edwards.		9 00 J. L. Ho
1865 Mar. 20	Woodward, W. E., 6th Semi-An. Sale.	5 00 Jenks.	27 00 J. Zanoni.	22 00 Colin Lightbody.	8 00 J. L. Ho
June 20	Cogan, Edw.	18 50	7 75 R. B. Chambers.	15 00 Edw. Cogan.	8 50 Edw. Wor
1866 Dec. 6	Lightbody, Colin.	8 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	23 00 Mort. L. Mackenzie.	24 00 Joseph Reakirt.	1 38
1867 Oct. 28	Mickley, Jos. J.	110 00 M. L. Mackenzie.	23 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	20 00 Thos. Cleneay.	4 00 L. Bayard
" "	" "	11 25 Col. M. I. Cohen.	22 00 J. H. Applegate, Jr.	15 00 M. L. Mackenzie.	31 00 A. V. Jencks
" "	" "		11 00 S. S. Crosby.	17 00 Col. M. I. Cohen.	28 00 L. Bayard
" "	" "			13 50 Morris.	17 50 E. J. Far
" "	" "			12 50 S. S. Crosby.	
Totals of 20 sales for each variety.		\$262 80 Total for 20 pieces.	\$328 15 Total for 24 pieces.	\$293 05 Total for 24 pieces.	\$152 31 Total for 24 pieces.
Highest priced piece of the 20 sales for each variety.		\$110 00 Purchased by M. L. Mackenzie.	\$31 00 Purchased by J. N. T. Levick.	\$31 00 Purchased by A. V. Jencks.	\$28 00 Purchased by L. Bayard.

RECAPITULATION.

20 Link "Ameri's"	realized a total of	\$262 80	averaging	\$13 14
24 " "America's"	" "	328 15	" "	13 67
24 Wreaths, Vine and Bars edge	" "	293 05	" "	12 21
21 " "Lettered edge	" "	152 31	" "	7 25
20 Liberty Caps	" "	325 50	" "	16 28
109 Cents of 1793	" "	\$1,361 81	" "	\$12 49

This shows us that from 20 Sales, 109 Cents of '93, brought the sum of one hundred and thirty-six thousand one hundred and eighty-one (136,181) cents. The average of the Liberty Cap Cent is the highest, and that of the Link "America" next, and so on.

1 Link "Ameri."	\$110 00	Purchased by Mortimer L.
1 " "America."	31 00	Jos. N. T. L.
1 Wreath, Vine and Bars edge	31 00	A. V. Jencks
1 " "Lettered edge,	28 00	L. Bayard Sh
1 Lib. Cap,	55 00	L. Bayard Sh
5	\$255 00	

Five distinct types or a set brought the above amount of fifty-one dollars each.

LE,

ATES COINAGE, SELECTED FROM TWENTY OF THE PRINCIPAL COIN-SALES IN
5 TO 1868.

T. LEVICK.

LETTERED, ED FOR A ON EDGE.	LIBERTY-CAP.	Total number of pieces of each sale.	Total of each sale.	Average of each sale.	Highest priced Cent of each sale, with variety and purchaser.
rtiss.		4	3 20	80	80 Burtiss.
C. Tripler,	7 25 Jos. J. Mickley,	3	24 98	8 33	Link "America," 12 00 Simon Gratz.
ith. Phila.	5 00	5	22 00	4 40	Wreath, Bars, 8 30 W. J. Jenks.
K. Wiggins,	6 00 Emil Cauffman,	5	48 00	9 60	Link "America," 15 00 Wm. J. Jenks.
rnard,	10 50 Jno. K. Wiggins,	5	40 25	8 05	Lib. Cap, 10 50 Jno. K. Wiggins.
S. Robinson,	4 00 Bringham,	5	26 00	5 20	Wreath, Bars, 9 00 N. Sleeper.
Aug. Shurtleff,	17 50 Francis S. Hoffman,	5	49 75	9 95	Lib. Cap, 17 50 Francis S. Hoffman.
	12 75 Dr. Aug. Shurtleff,	6	44 88	7 48	Lib. Cap, 12 75 Dr. Shurtleff.
Zanoni,	16 50 J. Zanoni,	5	58 00	11 60	Link "America," 24 50 J. P. Leavitt.
Cogan,	11 00 Jno. K. Wiggins,	5	40 25	8 05	Link "Ameri," 15 00 Ed. Cogan.
Cogan,	6 75 Robt. B. Chambers,	5	40 75	8 15	Link "America," 16 00 A. S. Robinson.
	10 00 W. H. Strobidge,	6	68 25	11 37	Link "America," 20 00 G. M. Parsons.
Woodward,	30 00 W. S. Appleton,	5	63 87	12 77	Lib. Cap, 30 00 W. S. Appleton.
N. T. Levick,	10 00	5	54 25	10 85	Link "America," 31 00 J. N. T. Levick.
L. Hodge,	25 00 Colin Lightbody,	5	97 00	19 40	Wreath, Bars, 26 30 Jos. Zanoni.
L. Hodge,	14 00 J. N. T. Levick,	7	94 25	13 46	Link "America," 27 00 Jos. Zanoni.
w. Worthington,	5 00 Burt,	6	65 25	10 87	Wreath, Bars, 24 00 Jos. Reakirt.
Bayard Smith,	1 75	3	21 63	7 21	Link "Ameri," 18 50
Bayard Smith,	40 00 Thos. Cleneay,	6	110 00	18 33	Liberty Cap, 40 00 Thos. Cleneay.
J. Farmer,	55 00 L. Bayard Smith,	13	389 25	29 94	Link "Ameri," 110 00 Mort. L. Mackenzie.
	37 50 Rich'd B. Winsor,				
Total for 22 pieces.	\$325 50 Total for 20 pieces.	100 pieces for	\$1,351 81	\$215 81	\$469 15 for 20 cents.
Purchased by	Purchased by	Averaging	\$12 49 each.	Averaging	Average, \$23 46 each.
Bayard Smith.	L. Bayard Smith.	\$10 79			

Below we give the highest average of ten Sales selected from the above.					
NUMBER OF PIECES.					
13 cents.	J. J. Mickley's Coll.,	Oct. 28, 1867,	389 25	averaging	\$29 04
5 "	Jno. F. McCoy's Coll.,	May 17, 1864,	97 00	"	19 40
6 "	Colin Lightbody's Coll.,	Dec. 6, 1866,	110 00	"	18 33
7 "	Woodward's 5th S. A. Sale,	Oct. 18, 1864,	94 25	"	13 46
3 "	J. P. Leavitt's Coll.,	Sept. 15, 1863,	63 87	"	12 77
8 "	W. A. Lilliendahl's Coll.,	May 26, 1863,	58 00	"	11 60
6 "	Woodward's 2d S. A. Sale,	April 18, 1863,	68 25	"	11 37
6 "	" 6th "	M'ch 20, 1865,	65 25	"	10 87
5 "	G. F. Seavey's (Duplicates),	Sept. 22, 1863,	54 25	"	10 85
5 "	Edw. Cogan,	Oct. 18, 1860,	49 75	"	9 95
63	'93's brought the sum of		\$1,049 87	"	\$16 66
From ten Sales 63 U. S. Cents of '93 sold for one hundred and four thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven (1,049 87) cents.					